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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SECTION

ARMY
MEDICAL
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For Period
10 November to 16 November
1946

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WEEKLY BULLETIN

SECTION I

WELFARE

School Lunch Program

Culminating a series of conferences attended by the Ministries of Health and Welfare, Finance, Agriculture and Forestry, Home Affairs, and the Economic and Scientific Section, Natural Resources Section, Civilian Education and Information, and Public Health and Welfare Section, SCAP, a nation-wide school lunch program was confirmed. This program will originate in the urban center schools, prepared to handle student feeding and will be supplementary in nature, in the initial stages. As experience is gained, and as sources of necessary nutritional items are assured, the program will be expanded to the rural areas and will, in time, include all primary and secondary school children. A school lunch program is necessary to give the students, now in training for their roles in a democratic Japan, a body strengthening supplement to a meager diet. It is also necessary to assure a continual low incidence of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. It is estimated that the development of the entire program will require a minimum of three months.

Child Placement (Foster Home Program)

Certain metropolitan areas claim they are finding it difficult to handle many of the "children of the streets" who have taken to a life of aimless existence and are experimenting with sending these children away from the city to farms and fishing villages, where they may be apt to more readily mend their ways under nature's influence.

A well planned child placement program (foster homes) for orphaned and/or deserted children is to be commended, but a word of caution is necessary at this time.

Japan is a maze of small family enterprises and every precaution must be taken to insure that a child placed in a foster home is not placed there

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through purchase, lease or under the guise of adoption and become the victim of involuntary servitude and for labor abuses. It is not necessary to elaborate on the corrupt practices that may develop in a program of this nature, unless it is under constant surveillance.

The labor laws in Japan do not extend any protection to minors working in enterprises operated by "members of the same family". Until such time as the labor laws give full protection to minors, every precaution must be exercised in the development of any child placement program for exacting safeguards and surveillance against the abuse and subversion of the program, otherwise the program will defeat its purpose and will be another guise for exploiting the homeless child and the orphan in "family enterprises".

Japanese Red Cross

At the request of the Junior Red Cross Director, concrete suggestions for training leaders and teacher-sponsors have been developed and presented in a series of conferences.

The extent of Junior Red Cross participation in the contemplated new school lunch program is being considered. The initial draft of Junior Red Cross objectives to be included in the revised courses of study for schools has been completed.

The final draft of the revised rules and regulations of the Red Cross have been translated and reviewed. At a meeting of the standing council, plans for the reorganization of the National Headquarters were approved.

SECTION II

MEDICAL SERVICE

For the week ending 11 October 1946, the Japanese Civilian Hospital Strength Report shows 5011 hospitals in operation, with a capacity of 213,491

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beds, 112,850 of which are occupied. There were 282,027 out-patients treated.

SECTION III

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

Report from the Japanese

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Animal Disease Section, reported the following new outbreaks of disease during the period 10-16 November 1946.

<u>Prefecture</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases</u>
Hyogo	Blackleg	1
Saitama	Swine Erysipelas	1
Tokyo	Swine Erysipelas	1
Kumamoto	Texas Fever	17
Nagasaki	Texas Fever	6

SECTION IV

DENTAL AFFAIRS

For the month ending 15 October there were 39 dentists reestablished in practice.

SECTION V

SUPPLY

Production

A symposium on theoretical and practical aspects of penicillin production was held under the leadership of Dr. Foster at the Ministry of Health. Some 400 University scientists and representatives of each penicillin manufacturer from all over Japan attended these lectures. The following penicillin plants were inspected on 8-12 November:

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Morinaga at Mishima

Shin-Nihon Kogyo Ltd. at Odawara

Sanyoyushi Co. Ltd. at Nagoya

Banyu Co. Ltd. at Okazaki

The Sanyoyushi Company is considered to be the only plant so far seen in Japan which has high class large scale heavy equipment and an appreciation of factory scale methods for penicillin. The engineering proficiency of this company also is impressive for penicillin. This organization doubtless will have one of the largest penicillin plants in Japan if not in the world, and seems likely to be first in truly factory scale production. They were urged to draw up flow sheets and engineering design and seek any necessary aid from SOAP as soon as possible. This plant will be pushed to the limit by this office for it has the possibility of being the first in production and can serve as an instructive model and leadership for other plants. In October a total of 24 million units was produced in Japan.

While on a recent trip to Osaka a complaint was registered that doctors in that prefecture were unable to purchase hypodermic needles. The Welfare Ministry was notified and a check was made of the above complaint.

It was found that there is a sufficient supply of hypodermic needles in Japan and that the doctors were being notified through their prefectures the names of dealers from whom purchases can be made.

Distribution

Arrangements were completed for the shipment of 100,000 vials of U.S. Typhus vaccine via water transportation to Korea.

The pharmaceutical Affairs Section, Japanese Welfare Ministry, is requesting all prefectural health officers to submit their requirements for V. C. clinics and laboratories, and necessary action will be taken by the Ministry in securing the requested supplies for them.

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At the request of the Quarantine Officer, PH&W, arrangements were made to have 96 kilograms of Japanese produced Sulfanilamide ointment sent in equal amounts to the following ports, for treatment of dermatitis suffered by repatriates awaiting shipment to destination:

Nagoya, Kagoshima, Sasebo and Ujina.

Medical supplies declared excess by repatriation ports have been taken into custody by the Japanese Quarantine Bureau, and distribution of these supplies were made to ports which are in need of medical supplies. Excess medical supplies being returned from Hulutao are also being distributed accordingly.

Narcotic Control

A survey of the narcotic activities of drug manufacturers in Japan Proper from 1930 to 1945, a total of eight reports, is being forwarded to the War Department for the attention of the Commissioner of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.

A visit was made to Kyoto by the Narcotic Control Officer, Assistant Narcotic Control Officer, and a narcotic inspector of Tokyo-To to attend a meeting of all the prefectural narcotic officials of the southern half of Japan and Welfare Ministry narcotic officials. Talks covering all aspects of the new narcotic laws were made by the Narcotic Control Officers and Welfare Ministry officials. Emphasis was placed on the leveling of narcotic stocks and proper disposition of narcotic addicts. Narcotic warehouses of the Takeda, Tanabe and Dai Nippon drug companies were examined. Their appointments and security features showed considerable improvement since last visited by the Narcotic Control Officer.

The above meeting, plus a previous meeting in Tokyo on 8 November 1946

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of all prefectural narcotic officials of the northern half of Japan completes the preliminary orientation of all prefectural narcotic officials in Japan. At both meetings the officials were advised that either a Narcotic Control Officer or a Welfare Ministry narcotic official would, upon a month's notice, go to any prefecture in Japan to help in the solution of any particular narcotic problem that might arise.

SECTION VI

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

General

A conference was held with the Chief of the Acute Infectious Disease Section, Welfare Ministry, to discuss possibilities and methods for expediting the collection and forwarding of current communicable disease reports. It was agreed that venereal disease reports would be advanced one week, to conform with other communicable disease reports. It was agreed further that all reports should be forwarded by prefectural health officers as soon as possible after the end of the week for which the report is submitted. Military Government health officers are urged to assist prefectural health officers in this project.

Sanitary Engineering

Inspections were made of water supplies, water works and waste disposal facilities at Sapporo, Aomori, Akita and Niigata. Further confirmation was given to the previously held impression that there are many physically satisfactory waterworks installations presently producing water of questionable quality because of poor operational technique.

Plans are being developed to set up training schools for waterworks operators, the course designed to run for three months and to cover operation

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of filters and other equipment chemical treatment, bacteriological examination and other pertinent subjects. The presentation is to be in a manner understandable to sub-professionally educated operators.

Insect and Rodent Control

Numerous cities are currently conducting programs of rodent poisoning using Antu with flour or rice meal as bait. Programs were observed in Tokyo, Aomori and Niigata; varying degrees of success were being achieved, commensurate with the skill used in mixing and sitting out the baits.

Typhus Control

Two-day training courses in louse-borne typhus fever and its control were conducted in Sapporo and Akita City for health officers of Hokkaido and the Tohoku region respectively. Health officers of subordinate administrative units also attended.

Special emphasis was placed upon educating the Japanese public in louse control methods not involving the use of DDT. This was done not because of any shortage of DDT but to counteract a tendency to rely upon it as a cure-all, while neglecting other simple, common sense measures. DDT is regarded as an effective agent, particularly valuable in case of an actual or impending epidemic.

Venereal Disease Control

The venereal disease control officer in the Welfare Ministry has been directed to continue efforts to establish venereal disease control clinics in health centers through-out the prefectures, and to use national hospitals for venereal disease in-patients.

The medical and epidemiologic inadequacies of the system of routine examination of prostitutes were stressed in order that clinicians will in-

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crease their efforts to make diagnosis of gonorrhea on a clinical basis.

Studies are being compiled which it is believed will establish venereal disease control on sound public health principles, and which will clarify the function of the Police, the Courts, the Welfare agencies, and Public Health Departments.

Port Quarantine

Foreign Quarantine regulations for Japan, published during the previous week, have disseminated to the authorities concerned with their enforcement. Since Japan's Foreign Commerce is expected to increase it is anticipated that additional ports shall have to be recognized as ports of entry. Plans have been formulated during the past week to hold a series of conferences to settle this and other matters in connection with enforcing the new regulations. Plans are also being formulated to redeploy experienced personnel now working on repatriation to the work of Port Quarantine at such ports as shall be opened to commercial traffic with Japan.

The repatriation program continues to function smoothly, although isolated cases of smallpox, typhus and cholera continue to appear.

SECTION VII

Legal

CONSULTANTS

A series of conferences were held with representatives of Ministry of Health and Welfare on the provisions of the bill to be presented to the Diet on Licensure of Nurses. The bill is complete, and subject to some proposed changes, will be presented at the December session of the Diet.

Nutrition Surveys

November nutrition surveys in the Matsuyama, Toyama and Kyoto areas

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are being observed by the Nutrition Consultant.

The first session of the National Foodstuffs and Nutrition Inquiry Commission met at the Prime Ministers official residence the 13 November. The Chief of Public Health and Welfare Section, Col. C.F. Sams was in attendance. Aims of the nutrition Commission were explained by the Vice-Chairman.

The average percentage of individuals in the August Survey of four Coal mines, one copper mine and Tokyo Railway Workers showing symptoms associated with nutritional deficiencies are given in the attached table.

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